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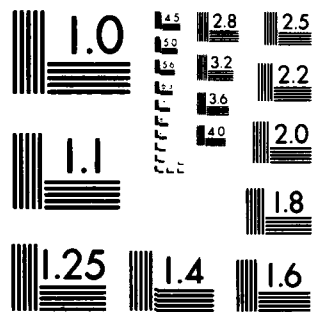
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6 A SIMPLE DERIVATION OF GLASSMAN'S
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A SIMPLE DERIVATION OF GLASSMAN'S GENERAL N FAST FOURIER TRANSFORM

Warren E. Ferguson, Jr.

Technical Summary Report #2029
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ABSTRACT

A simple derivation of Glassman's general N fast Fourier transform, and corresponding FORTRAN program, is presented. This fast Fourier transform is based upon a representation of the discrete Fourier transform matrix as a product of sparse matrices.

AMS (MOS) Subject Classification: 65T05

Key Words: FFT, Fast Fourier transform factorization, Discrete Fourier
transform

Work Unit Number 8 (Computer Science)

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SIGNIFICANCE AND EXPLANATION

The discrete Fourier transform is the basis for several accurate techniques for the numerical solution of partial differential equations. The fast Fourier transform, an algorithm which allows one to compute rapidly the discrete Fourier transform, makes these techniques computationally efficient. This paper attempts to present a lucid description of one fast Fourier transform, the fast Fourier transform presented by Glassman.

In the past people have frequently been content to compute rapidly the discrete Fourier transform of vectors whose length is a power of two. Glassman's fast Fourier transform allows rapid computation of the discrete Fourier transform of vectors of arbitrary length.

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A SIMPLE DERIVATION OF GLASSMAN'S GENERAL N FAST FOURIER TRANSFORM

Warren F. Ferguson, Jr.

1. Introduction

Let the N-vector v be the discrete Fourier transform (DFT) of the N-vector u , i.e., the components v_k of v are computed from the components u_ℓ of u by the rule

$$v_k = \sum_{\ell=1}^N u_\ell \omega_N^{(k-1)(\ell-1)} \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, \dots, N$$

where

$$\omega_N \equiv \exp\{-2\pi\sqrt{-1}/N\}$$

is a principle N-th root of unity. It is easily demonstrated that the components of u can be recovered from the components of v by the rule

$$u_\ell = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N v_k \omega_N^{-(k-1)(\ell-1)} \quad \text{for } \ell = 1, 2, \dots, N.$$

The N-point DFT matrix W_N is defined to be the matrix of order N whose entry in row i , column j is

$$\omega_N^{(i-1)(j-1)}.$$

Therefore the relations between u and v presented above can be written as

$$v = W_N u \quad \text{and} \quad u = \frac{1}{N} \bar{W}_N v$$

where \bar{W}_N denotes the matrix obtained by replacing each entry of W_N by its complex conjugate.

A fast Fourier transform (FFT) is generally considered to be any algorithm which rapidly computes the DFT of a given vector. One of the most popular FFTs was presented by

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Cooley and Tukey [3] in 1965. Their algorithm computes the DFT of an N-vector using

$$N = (R_1 + R_2 + \dots + R_K)$$

complex operations, where one operation denotes one multiplication followed by one addition, whenever N admits the representation

$$N = R_1 R_2 \dots R_K$$

as a product of K positive integers R_1, R_2, \dots, R_K . Since the publication of their article numerous authors have presented other FFTs, each requiring approximately the same number of complex operations. One notable exception is the FFT of Winograd [7].

In this paper I will present a description of Glassman's [5] FFT. This description of Glassman's FFT differs from one presented by Drubin [4] only in the definition of the tensor product. (However, neither Glassman nor Drubin presented a FORTRAN program which computes the DFT of a given N-vector.) I define the tensor product $A \otimes B$ of two matrices A, B to be the matrix which, when partitioned into blocks the size of A, has $Ab_{i,j}$ as the entry in block row i and block column j. In the appendix of this paper I have presented proofs of three well known properties possessed by this tensor product.

Glassman's FFT computes the DFT of an N-vector using the same number of complex operations as the Cooley-Tukey FFT. The main advantage of Glassman's FFT is that it is easily coded, a fact which should be compared with Singleton's [6] FFT. The main disadvantage of Glassman's FFT is that it requires an N-vector of working storage to compute the DFT of an N-vector. I will show how one can, to some extent, eliminate this disadvantage.

I would also like to mention that de Boor [1] has recently presented an FFT that is also easily described and coded.

2. Factorization of the Discrete Fourier Transform Matrix

Consider the DFT matrix W_{PQ} where P, Q are two positive integers.

Partition the i -th row of W_{PQ} into Q groups of P successive entries. The entries in the q -th group are

$$[\omega_{PQ}^{(i-1)(0+(q-1)P)}, \omega_{PQ}^{(i-1)(1+(q-1)P)}, \dots, \omega_{PQ}^{(i-1)(P-1+(q-1)P)}].$$

Each member of this group contains the common factor

$$\omega_{PQ}^{(i-1)(q-1)P} = \omega_Q^{(i-1)(q-1)},$$

therefore the q -th group admits the representation

$$\omega_Q^{(i-1)(q-1)} \gamma_i^{(P,Q)}$$

where

$$\gamma_i^{(P,Q)} \equiv [\omega_{PQ}^{(i-1)(0)}, \omega_{PQ}^{(i-1)(1)}, \dots, \omega_{PQ}^{(i-1)(P-1)}]$$

denotes the first P entries in the i -th row of W_{PQ} .

Next, partition the rows of W_{PQ} into P groups of Q successive rows. The rows in the p -th group are

$$\begin{bmatrix} \omega_Q^{(0+(p-1)Q)(0)} \gamma_{1+(p-1)Q}^{(P,Q)} & \dots & \omega_Q^{(0+(p-1)Q)(Q-1)} \gamma_{1+(p-1)Q}^{(P,Q)} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \omega_Q^{(Q-1+(p-1)Q)(0)} \gamma_{Q+(p-1)Q}^{(P,Q)} & \dots & \omega_Q^{(Q-1+(p-1)Q)(Q-1)} \gamma_{Q+(p-1)Q}^{(P,Q)} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Observe that each member of this group contains the term

$$\omega_Q^{(p-1)Q} = 1,$$

therefore the p -th group admits the representation

$$\begin{bmatrix} \gamma_{1+(p-1)Q}^{(P,Q)} & 0 \\ 0 & \gamma_{Q+(p-1)Q}^{(P,Q)} \end{bmatrix} \{I_P \otimes W_Q\}.$$

Here the matrix in square brackets is a block diagonal matrix, each block a $1 \times P$ matrix, where the i -th diagonal block is

$$\gamma_{i+(p-1)Q}^{(P,Q)}$$

and I_P is the identity matrix of order P .

These results allow us to prove the following

Lemma: The DFT matrix W_{PQ} admits the factorization

$$W_{P,Q} = F^{(P,Q)} \{I_P \otimes W_Q\}$$

where

$$\gamma_i^{(P,Q)} = [\omega_{PQ}^{(i-1)(0)}; \omega_{PQ}^{(i-1)(1)}; \dots; \omega_{PQ}^{(i-1)(P-1)}]$$

denotes the first P entries in the i -th row of W_{PQ} , and

$$F^{(P,Q)} = \begin{bmatrix} \gamma_{1+(0)Q}^{(P,Q)} & \gamma_{Q+(0)Q}^{(P,Q)} \\ \gamma_{1+(1)Q}^{(P,Q)} & \gamma_{Q+(1)Q}^{(P,Q)} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ \gamma_{1+(P-1)Q}^{(P,Q)} & \gamma_{Q+(P-1)Q}^{(P,Q)} \end{bmatrix}$$

is a $PQ \times Q$ block matrix with $1 \times P$ blocks.

Proof: From the definition of $F^{(P,Q)}$ we find that the p -th group of Q successive rows of

$$F^{(P,Q)} \{I_P \otimes W_Q\}$$

is

$$\begin{bmatrix} \gamma_{1+(p-1)Q}^{(P,Q)} & \gamma_{Q+(p-1)Q}^{(P,Q)} \end{bmatrix} \{I_P \otimes W_Q\},$$

which our previous computations have shown to be the p -th group of Q successive rows of

W_{PQ} . Since p was arbitrary we therefore conclude that

$$W_{PQ} = F^{(P,Q)} \{I_P \otimes W_Q\}.$$

The matrix $F^{(P,Q)}$ defined in the above lemma has several interesting limiting cases, in particular

$$F^{(P,1)} = W_P \text{ and } F^{(1,Q)} = I_Q.$$

These observations aid us in the proof of the following

Theorem. Let N admit the representation

$$N = R_1 R_2 \dots R_K$$

as a product of K positive integers R_1, R_2, \dots, R_K . Then W_N admits the representation

$$W_N = F_1 F_2 \dots F_K$$

as a product of K sparse matrices F_1, F_2, \dots, F_K where

$$F_L = I_{R_1 \dots R_{L-1}} \otimes F^{(R_L, R_{L+1} \dots R_K)}.$$

(The products $R_1 \dots R_{L-1}$ for $L = 1$ and $R_{L+1} \dots R_K$ for $L = K$ are defined to be 1.)

Proof: The previous lemma, with $P = R_1$ and $Q = R_2 \dots R_K$, states that

$$W_N = F_1 \{ I_{R_1} \otimes W_{R_2 \dots R_K} \}.$$

Therefore the identity

$$W_N = F_1 \dots F_{L-1} \{ I_{R_1 \dots R_{L-1}} \otimes W_{R_L \dots R_K} \}$$

holds for $L = 2$. Let us suppose the identity holds for some $L < K$. The previous lemma,

with $P = R_L$ and $Q = R_{L+1} \dots R_K$, states that

$$W_{R_L \dots R_K} = F^{(R_L, R_{L+1} \dots R_K)} \{ I_{R_L} \otimes W_{R_{L+1} \dots R_K} \},$$

and so

$$I_{R_1 \dots R_{L-1}} \otimes W_{R_L \dots R_K} = F_L \{ I_{R_1 \dots R_L} \otimes W_{R_{L+1} \dots R_K} \}.$$

Consequently, if the identity holds for some $L < K$ then it holds for $L + 1$ too.

Therefore the identity must hold for $L = K$, i.e.

$$W_N = F_1 F_2 \dots F_K$$

where we have noted that

$$I_{R_1 \dots R_{K-1}} \otimes W_{R_K} = I_{R_1 \dots R_{K-1}} \otimes F^{(R_K, 1)} = F_K.$$

3. A FORTRAN Implementation of Glassman's Fast Fourier Transform

The previous theorem, due to Glassman, allows us to easily code a FFT. For to compute

$$W_N u$$

with the result stored over u , we only need apply the factors F_1, F_2, \dots, F_K of W_N to u in the reverse order.

Suppose that we have just applied the factor

$$F_{L+1} = I_B \otimes F^{(C,A)}$$

to u , where (A = after, R = before, and C = current)

$$A = R_{L+2} \dots R_K,$$

$$B = R_1 \dots R_L, \text{ and}$$

$$C = R_{L+1}.$$

Then we should next apply the factor

$$F_L = I_{B/R_L} \otimes F^{(R_L, AR_{L+1})}$$

to u . This computation can be described as

1. $A \leftarrow A \times C$
2. Let C be the divisor R_L of B
3. $B \leftarrow B/C$
4. $u \leftarrow I_{B/R_L} \otimes F^{(C,A)} u$.

Since the order of the divisors R_1, R_2, \dots, R_K of N is unimportant we find that the entire algorithm may be described as

1. $A \leftarrow 1$
2. $B \leftarrow N$
3. $C \leftarrow 1$
4. While $B > 1$ do
5. $A \leftarrow A \times C$

6. Let $C > 1$ be a divisor of B
7. $B \leftarrow B/C$
8. $u \leftarrow I_R \otimes F^{(C,A)} u$
9. endwhile .

With the exception of steps 6 and 8, each step of this algorithm can be directly implemented in FORTRAN. Observe that step 6 admits the expansion

- 6.1 $C \leftarrow 2$
- 6.2 While $B \bmod C \neq 0$ do
- 6.3 $C \leftarrow C + 1$
- 6.4 endwhile

into steps that can be directly implemented in FORTRAN. We next consider the expansion of step 8.

Let the product RS of the integers R, S be a divisor of N . For any N -vector w we define $w^{(R)}$ to be the FORTRAN array of dimension $(R, N/R)$ which is equivalent to w , and $w^{(R,S)}$ to be the FORTRAN array of dimension $(R, S, N/RS)$ which is equivalent to w . This definition merely implies that

$$w_{i,j}^{(R)} = w_{i+(j-1)R} \quad \text{and}$$

$$w_{i,j,k}^{(R,S)} = w_{i+(j-1)R+(k-1)RS}.$$

Let

$$v = I_R \otimes F^{(C,A)} u$$

denote the result of the computation described in step 8. As shown in the appendix we find that

$$v^{(B)} = u^{(B)} F^{(C,A)T},$$

or equivalently that

$$v_{i,j}^{(B)} = \sum_{k=1}^{AC} u_{i,k}^{(B)} F_{j,k}^{(C,A)}$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, B$ and $j = 1, 2, \dots, AC$. If we express j in the form

$$j = j_A + (j_C - 1)A,$$

with $1 \leq j_A \leq A$ and $1 \leq j_C \leq C$, then the nonzero entries in the j -th row of $V^{(P)}$ are the numbers

$$\omega_{AC}^{(j-1)(\ell-1)}$$

in columns $k = \ell + (j_A - 1)C$ for $\ell = 1, 2, \dots, C$. We therefore find that

$$v_{i, j_A + (j_C - 1)A}^{(P)} = \sum_{\ell=1}^C u_{i, \ell + (j_A - 1)C}^{(P)} \omega_{AC}^{(j_A - 1 + (j_C - 1)A)(\ell - 1)},$$

or equivalently that

$$v_{i, j_A, j_C}^{(P, A)} = \sum_{\ell=1}^C u_{i, \ell, j_A}^{(P, C)} \omega_{AC}^{(j_A - 1 + (j_C - 1)A)(\ell - 1)},$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, B$, $j_A = 1, 2, \dots, A$ and $j_C = 1, 2, \dots, C$. Consequently, step 8 admits the expansion

```

8.1 For j_C = 1, 2, ..., C
8.2   For j_A = 1, 2, ..., A
8.3     For i = 1, 2, ..., B
8.4       v_{i, j_A, j_C}^{(P, A)} + \sum_{\ell=1}^C u_{i, \ell, j_A}^{(P, C)} \omega_{AC}^{(j_A - 1 + (j_C - 1)A)(\ell - 1)}
8.5     Next i
8.6   Next j_A
8.7 Next j_C

```

into steps that can be directly implemented in FORTRAN.

Figure 1 presents a FORTRAN version of Glassman's FFT. For comparison we present de Boor's [1] FFT in Figure 2. I have found that Glassman's FFT runs several percent faster than de Boor's FFT on the University of Wisconsin's UNIVAC 1110. This increase in speed is probably due to the fact that the loop structure used in Glassman's FFT can more efficiently be implemented in FORTRAN than the loop structure used in de Boor's FFT. This increase in speed would therefore vanish if one were to hand code both FFT's using machine language.

```

1.      SUBROUTINE FFT(I,II,WORK,INVS)
2.      INTEGER N
3.      COMPLEX U(N),WORK(N)
4.      LOGICAL INVS
5.
6.      C
7.      C
8.      C *** INPUT ***
9.      C
10.     C      ... INTEGER
11.     C      U ... A COMPLEX N-VECTOR TO BE TRANSFORMED
12.     C      INVS ... A LOGICAL VARIABLE
13.     C
14.     C *** OUTPUT ***
15.     C
16.     C      U ... THE DFT OF U IF INVS IS .FALSE., OR
17.     C      N TIMES THE INVERSE DFT OF U IF INVS
18.     C      IS .TRUE.
19.     C
20.     C *** WORKING STORAGE ***
21.     C
22.     C      WORK ... A COMPLEX N-VECTOR
23.     C
24.     C
25.     C      INTEGER A,R,C
26.     C      LOGICAL INU
27.     C
28.     C      A = 1
29.     C      R = N
30.     C      C = 1
31.     C      INU = .TRUE.
32.     C
33.     C      10 IF (R.GT.1) GO TO 30
34.     C          IF (INU) RETURN
35.     C          DO 20 I=1,N
36.     C              U(I) = WORK(I)
37.     C          20 CONTINUE
38.     C          RETURN
39.     C
40.     C      30 A = C*A
41.     C
42.     C      DO 40 C=2,R
43.     C          IF (MOD(R,C).EQ.0) GO TO 50
44.     C      40 CONTINUE
45.     C
46.     C      50 R = R/C
47.     C
48.     C      IF (.NOT. INU) CALL GLASNN(A,R,C,U,WORK,INVS)
49.     C      IF (.NOT. INU) CALL GLASNN(A,R,C,WORK,U,INVS)
50.     C      INU = .NOT. INU
51.     C
52.     C      GO TO 10
53.     C
54.     C      END
55.

```

Figure 1

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```

1.      SUBROUTINE GLASHN(A,R,C,UIH,UIHT,INVR)
2.      INTEGER A,R,C
3.      COMPLEX UIH(R,C,A),UIHT(R,A,C)
4.      LOGICAL INVR
5.      C
6.      C
7.      C
8.      C      THIS SUBROUTINE IS CALLED FROM SUBROUTINE *FFT*
9.      C
10.     C
11.     C
12.     COMPLEX DELTA,OMEGA,SUM
13.     DATA TWOPI/6.2831 85307 17958/
14.     C
15.     ANGLE = TWOPI/FLOAT(A*C)
16.     DELTA = CMPLX(COS(ANGLE),-SIN(ANGLE))
17.     IF (INVR) DELTA = CONJG(DELTA)
18.     C
19.     OMEGA = CMPLX(1.,0.)
20.     DO 40 IC=1,C
21.         DO 30 IA=1,A
22.             DO 20 IR=1,R
23.                 SUM = UIH(IR,C,IA)
24.                 DO 10 JCR=2,C
25.                     JC = C+1-JCR
26.                     SUM = UIH(IR,JC,IA) + OMEGA*SUM
27.                 10 CONTINUE
28.                 UIHT(IR,IA,IC) = SUM
29.                 20 CONTINUE
30.                 OMEGA = DELTA*OMEGA
31.                 30 CONTINUE
32.             40 CONTINUE
33.         C
34.         RETURN
35.     C
36.     END

```

Figure 1 - Cont'd.

```

1.      SUBROUTINE FFT(N,U,WORK,INVR)
2.      INTEGER N
3.      COMPLEX U(N),WORK(N)
4.      LOGICAL INVR
5.
6.
7.
8.      *** INPUT ***
9.
10.     N      ... INTEGER
11.     U      ... A COMPLEX N-VECTOR TO BE TRANSFORMED
12.     INVR   ... A LOGICAL VARIABLE
13.
14.     *** OUTPUT ***
15.
16.     U      ... THE DFT OF U IF INVR IS .FALSE., OR
17.              N TIMES THE INVERSE DFT OF U IF INVR
18.              IS .TRUE.
19.
20.     *** WORKING STORAGE ***
21.
22.     WORK   ... A COMPLEX N-VECTOR
23.
24.
25.
26.     INTEGER A,B,C
27.     LOGICAL INU
28.
29.     A = 1
30.     B = N
31.     C = 1
32.     INU = .TRUE.
33.
34.     10 IF (B.GT.1) GO TO 30
35.         IF (INU) RETURN
36.         DO 20 I=1,N
37.             U(I) = WORK(I)
38.         20 CONTINUE
39.         RETURN
40.
41.     30 A = A+C
42.
43.         DO 40 C=2,B
44.             IF (MOD(B,C).EQ.0) GO TO 50
45.         40 CONTINUE
46.
47.     50 B = B/C
48.
49.     IF (C.EQ.1) CALL DERDOR(A,B,C,U,WORK,INVR)
50.     IF (.NOT.INU) CALL DERDOR(A,B,C,WORK,U,INVR)
51.     INU = .NOT.INU
52.
53.     GO TO 10
54.
55.     END

```

Figure 2


```

1.      SUBROUTINE DERPOD(A,B,C,ITA,IOUT,INVR)
2.      INTEGER A,B,C
3.      COMPLEX ITA(A,B,C),IOUT(A,C,B)
4.      LOGICAL INVR
5.
6.      C
7.      C
8.      C      THIS SUBROUTINE IS CALLED FROM SUBROUTINE *FFT*
9.      C
10.     C
11.     C
12.     COMPLEX OMEGA,DELTA,SUM
13.     DATA TWOPI/6.2831 85307 17958/
14.     C
15.     ANGLE = TWOPI/FLOAT(A*C)
16.     DELTA = CMPLX(COS(ANGLE),-SIN(ANGLE))
17.     IF (INVR) DELTA = CONJG(DELTA)
18.     C
19.     OMEGA = CMPLX(1.,0.)
20.     DO 40 IC=1,C
21.         DO 30 IA=1,A
22.             DO 20 IB=1,B
23.                 SUM = UIN(IA,IB,C)
24.                 DO 10 JCR=2,C
25.                     JC = C+1-JCR
26.                     SUM = UIN(IA,IB,JC) + OMEGA*SUM
27.                 10 CONTINUE
28.                 IOUT(IA,IC,IB) = SUM
29.                 20 CONTINUE
30.                 OMEGA = DELTA*OMEGA
31.                 30 CONTINUE
32.             40 CONTINUE
33.         C
34.         RETURN
35.     C
36.     END

```

Figure 2 - Cont'd.

4. Conclusion

Observe that Glassman's FFT requires an N-vector of working storage to compute the DFT of an N-vector, for during the computation

$$u \leftarrow I_B \otimes F^{(C,A)} u$$

we need an N-vector to store the result

$$v = I_B \otimes F^{(C,A)} u.$$

As explained in the following paragraph, this N-vector of working storage can be replaced by a C-vector of working storage at the expense of additional computational effort.

Let $p^{(C,A)}$ denote the permutation matrix of order AC which sends row $j_C + (j_A - 1)C$ of the vector w into row $j_A + (j_C - 1)A$ of the vector $p^{(C,A)} w$. Consequently

$$I_B \otimes p^{(C,A)} v = I_B \otimes p^{(C,A)} F^{(C,A)} u$$

where $p^{(C,A)} F^{(C,A)}$ is a block diagonal matrix with $C \times C$ blocks. Therefore the computation

$$u \leftarrow I_B \otimes F^{(C,A)} u$$

can be replaced by the equivalent computation

$$\begin{aligned} u &\leftarrow I_B \otimes p^{(C,A)} F^{(C,A)} u, \\ u &\leftarrow I_B \otimes p^{(C,A)T} u. \end{aligned}$$

Careful consideration reveals that this latter sequence of calculations requires only a C-vector of working storage.

It is also possible to incorporate any FFT which computes the DFT of an N-vector for special values of N into Glassman's FFT. Recall that

$$W_N = F_1 F_2 \dots F_k$$

where

$$F_k = I_{R_1 R_2 \dots R_{k-1}} \otimes W_{R_k}.$$

Therefore any FFT which computes the DFT of an R_k -vector can be used when the factor F_k is to be applied to the vector being transformed.

Appendix: Some Properties of the Tensor Product

We have defined the tensor product $A \otimes B$ of two matrices A, B as the matrix which, when partitioned into blocks the size of A , has $Ab_{i,j}$ as the entry in block row i and block column j .

Consider now any N -vector w . If R is a divisor of N we define $w^{(R)}$ to be the FORTRAN array of dimension $(R, N/R)$ equivalent to w , i.e.

$$w_{i,j}^{(R)} = w_{i+(j-1)R}$$

With these definitions in mind let us now prove the following

Property 1: Let A, B be rectangular matrices where A is a $R \times C$ matrix. Then

$$v = (A \otimes B)u$$

if and only if

$$v^{(R)} = Au^{(C)}B^T$$

Proof: Let

$$v = (A \otimes B)u$$

From the definition of the tensor product $A \otimes B$ we observe, for each i , that

$$v_{*,i}^{(R)} = \sum_j Ab_{i,j}u_{*,j}^{(C)} = A \left\{ \sum_j b_{i,j}u_{*,j}^{(C)} \right\}$$

The sum within the curly brackets is easily identified as the i -th column of

$$u^{(C)}B^T,$$

consequently we infer that

$$v^{(R)} = Au^{(C)}B^T$$

The proof of the converse is obtained by reversing the argument presented above. •

Carl de Boer [2] has noted that this property allows one to easily compute

$$v = (A \otimes B)u$$

given u . For if A is an $R \times C$ matrix then

$$v^{(R)} = Au^{(C)}B^T = \{B(Au^{(C)})^T\}^T,$$

consequently programs which apply A and B to vectors can easily be used to apply $A \otimes B$ to vectors. This property also allows us to easily prove the following

Property 2: Let the products $A_1 A_2$ and $B_1 B_2$ be defined. Then

$$(A_1 A_2) \otimes (B_1 B_2) = (A_1 \otimes B_1)(A_2 \otimes B_2) .$$

Proof: Let A_k be an $R_k \times C_k$ matrix for $k = 1, 2$. Observe that $C_1 = R_2$ because the product $A_1 A_2$ is defined. Let u be an arbitrary vector and define

$$w = \{(A_1 A_2) \otimes (B_1 B_2)\}u .$$

Property 1 implies that

$$w^{(R_1)} = (A_1 A_2)u^{(C_2)} (B_1 B_2)^T = A_1 (A_2 u^{(C_2)})_{B_2^T}^{(C_2)} B_1^T .$$

If we define

$$v = (A_2 \otimes B_2)u$$

then property 1 implies that

$$v^{(R_2)} = A_2 u^{(C_2)} B_2^T , \text{ and}$$

$$w^{(R_1)} = A_1 v^{(R_2)} B_1^T$$

since $C_1 = R_2$. Using property 1 once more we find that

$$w = (A_1 \otimes B_1)v , \text{ and so}$$

$$w = (A_1 \otimes B_1)(A_2 \otimes B_2)u .$$

Consequently, for an arbitrary vector u we have

$$\{(A_1 A_2) \otimes (B_1 B_2)\}u = (A_1 \otimes B_1)(A_2 \otimes B_2)u ,$$

therefore

$$(A_1 A_2) \otimes (B_1 B_2) = (A_1 \otimes B_1)(A_2 \otimes B_2) .$$

The last tensor product property that we will need is described as follows.

Property 3: For arbitrary matrices A_1 , A_2 and A_3

$$A_1 \otimes (A_2 \otimes A_3) = (A_1 \otimes A_2) \otimes A_3 .$$

Proof: Let A_k be an $R_k \times C_k$ matrix for $k = 1, 2$, and 3 . Let $e_i^{(B)}$ be the B -vector obtained by replacing the i -th component of the zero B -vector by 1 . Let $a_{i,j}^{(k)}$ denote the entry of A_k in row i and column j . Observe that

$$A_k = \sum_{i,j} a_{i,j}^{(k)} e_i^{(R_k)} e_j^{(C_k)T} \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, 3.$$

Consequently

$$A_1 \otimes (A_2 \otimes A_3) = \sum a_{i,j}^{(1)} a_{k,l}^{(2)} a_{m,n}^{(3)} [e_i^{(R_1)} e_j^{(C_1)T}] \otimes ([e_k^{(R_2)} e_l^{(C_2)T}] \otimes [e_m^{(R_3)} e_n^{(C_3)T}])$$

and

$$(A_1 \otimes A_2) \otimes A_3 = \sum a_{i,j}^{(1)} a_{k,l}^{(2)} a_{m,n}^{(3)} ([e_i^{(R_1)} e_j^{(C_1)T}] \otimes [e_k^{(R_2)} e_l^{(C_2)T}]) \otimes [e_m^{(R_3)} e_n^{(C_3)T}].$$

From the easily verified identity

$$\begin{aligned} [e_i^{(R_1)} e_j^{(C_1)T}] \otimes ([e_k^{(R_2)} e_l^{(C_2)T}] \otimes [e_m^{(R_3)} e_n^{(C_3)T}]) &= \\ ([e_i^{(R_1)} e_j^{(C_1)T}] \otimes [e_k^{(R_2)} e_l^{(C_2)T}]) \otimes [e_m^{(R_3)} e_n^{(C_3)T}] & \end{aligned}$$

we deduce that

$$A_1 \otimes (A_2 \otimes A_3) = (A_1 \otimes A_2) \otimes A_3.$$

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